Government are however prepared to consider the question of opening the road as originally aligned by them provided the interested parties surrender free of compensation the lands required for the same.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: Sir, may I know from whom the move should come with regard to the surrender of lands for the opening of the road?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: I think the move should come from the petitioners or the parties concerned.

Sirkar tanks in Nedumangad taluk.

52. ***Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair**: (1) Will the Government be pleased to give a list of Sirkar tanks situated in the Nedumangad taluk specifying their areas, and the number of tanks in each pakuthi showing also the irrigation and Devaswom tanks separately?

(2) Will they be pleased to state the number of such tanks that are now actually used by the public?

Mr. G. B. E. Truscott: (1) and (2) The member is referred to pages 87 to 89 of the list of the Irrigation tanks and channels in the State attached to the report of the Minor Irrigation Committee. A copy of the report is placed on the table of the Secretary to the Council. The *list of Devaswom tanks is placed on the table.

Rank in the selective test as criterion for confirmation of candidates in the Public Service

53. ***Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai** (*Quilon cum Kunnattur*): With reference to the appointments made by the Public Service Commissioner in the intermediate division, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether rank in the selective test is taken as the criterion for confirmation;

(*b*) whether candidates with lower ranks have been confirmed;

(*c*) if so, the names of persons confirmed;

(*d*) the reason for preferring men in the lower ranks to those in the higher rank;

(*e*) the number of candidates with lower ranks made temporary;

(*f*) whether candidates with higher ranks were out of employment at that time; and

(*g*) whether there is any reason for preferring candidates with lower ranks to those with higher ranks?

**Vide* Appendix II. Page 409.

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Dr. G. D Nokes (*Public Service Commissioner*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) to (*f*) The labour and time involved in collecting this information in relation to each appointment and each department would not be commensurate with its utility.

(*g*) In the absence of reference to specific instances, it is not possible to indicate the reasons.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: May I know from the honourable member whether according to the present rule it is interfering with the claims of the people who hold higher ranks in the matter of confirmation ?

Dr. G. D. Nokes: The question of confirmation is decided according to the order in the selective tests. Where candidates are outside the service they cannot be confirmed, and in those cases the confirmation of candidates may have been deferred but is not interfered with otherwise.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: Sir, may I know in particular cases, approximately the longest period in which such confirmations have been deferred.

Dr. G. D. Nokes: That is a matter which I cannot answer without reference to the files.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: May I know whether the member is aware that considerable hardship is caused on account of the operation of this rule ?

Dr. G. D. Nokes: I have shown in my administration report for the year 1112 that the hardship is negligible.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: May I know why it is considered negligible ?

Dr. G. D. Nokes: When we consider the position before the public service recruitment rules came into operation and compare it with the present position, I think the majority of the candidates are in a better position.

Memorial regarding opening three roads in Edapalli pakuthi

54. ***Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received a memorial dated 9-11-1112 from the inhabitants of Edapalli pakuthi in Parur taluk for the opening of three roads, *i. e*, 1 Kumarapuram-Palarivattam Road, 2. Edapalli-Arakkakatavu Road, and 3 Perandur-Kallur Road; and

(*b*) what action has been taken by them in the matter ?

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